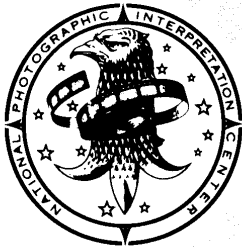


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PHOOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
REPORT

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION CENTER

**OBSERVATIONS OF RIVER
CROSSING EQUIPMENT
IN CHINA**

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PIR-014/77

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JUNE 1977

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NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
USIBONLY-	USIB Departments Only
ORCON-	Dissemination and Extraction of Information Controlled by Originator
REL...	This Information has been Authorized for Release to ...

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OBSERVATIONS OF RIVER CROSSING EQUIPMENT IN CHINA

INTRODUCTION

1. This report summarizes 67 sightings of river crossing equipment in China.

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2. Included in this report are a location map and a table listing the installations (by military region) containing river crossing equipment and the dates of the latest observations.

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BASIC DESCRIPTION

3. More river crossing equipment was observed in open parking areas in China (Figure 1) during this timeframe than in any previous period. This large number of sightings was partially the result of the major earthquake in northeast China in July 1976, which forced the removal of much equipment from storage sheds to open areas.

4. The river crossing equipment was observed in nine of the 11 military regions in China and was found at or near major ground force installations (Table 1). The observation of the river crossing elements with the main force units is significant because it indicates improved mobility for the People's Liberation Army throughout the country.

5. The sighting of river crossing equipment at 35 installations confirmed the presence of five ponton bridge regiments,* 24 ponton bridge companies, and elements of one additional regiment and of seven additional companies in China.

6. Also, river crossing equipment was observed for the first time at 32 installations. These first sightings included one regiment-sized unit, elements of an additional regiment, 22 companies, and eight groups of KMM truck-mounted treadway bridges. The majority of these sightings were in the Peking, Nan-ching, and Lan-chou Military Regions.

7. A probable tank-launched assault bridge and a tank-launched assault treadway were observed for the first time in China at Chang-hsin-tien in the Peking Military Region in April 1977. This equipment is similar to the Soviet MTU-54, a mobile assault bridge used for short-gap crossings by combined-arms teams.

*A ponton bridge regiment consists of four companies, each containing 18 ponton sections and two powerboats.

REFERENCES

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REQUIREMENT

Project 143480NB

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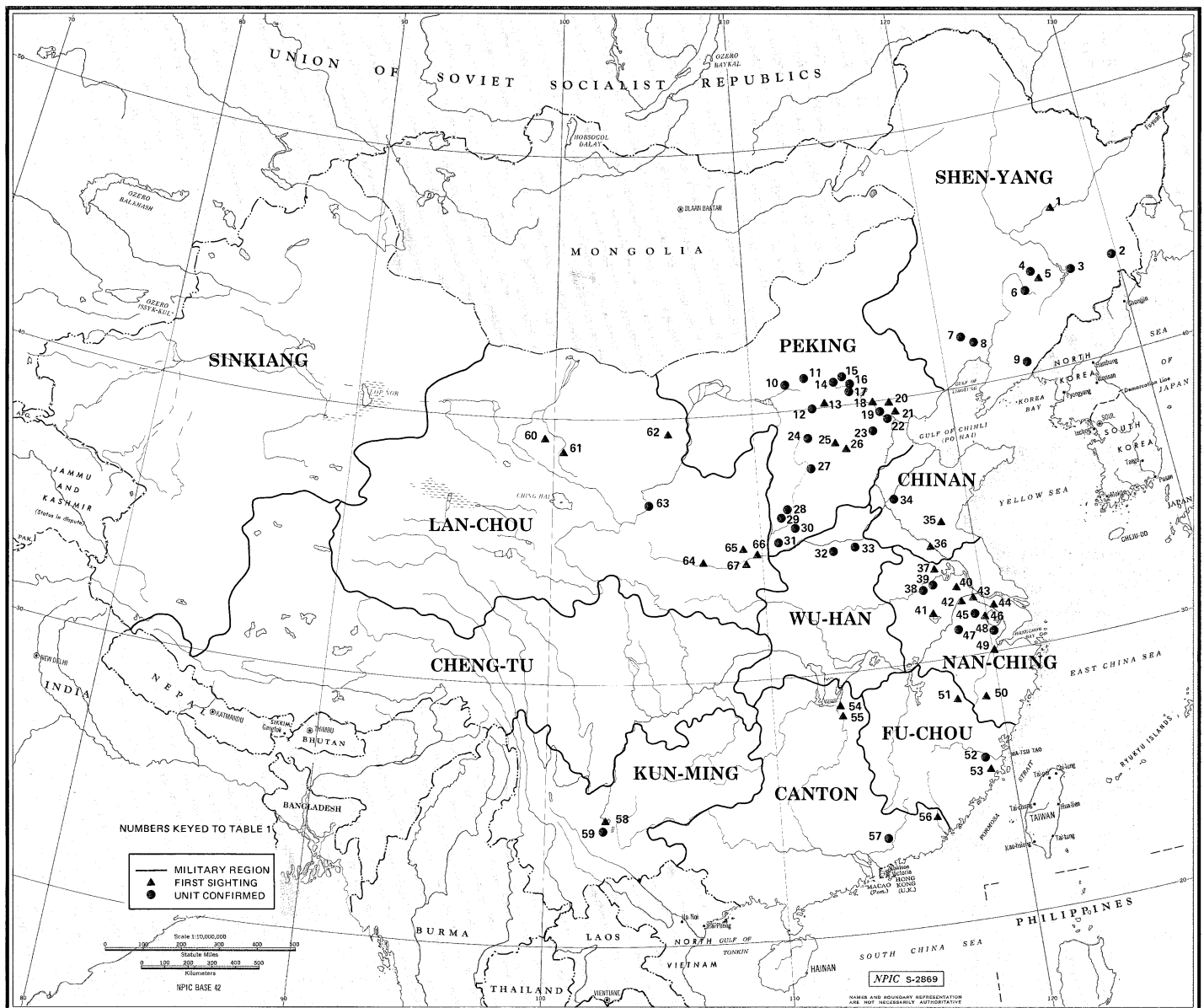


FIGURE 1. DISPOSITION OF RIVER CROSSING EQUIPMENT IN CHINA

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Table 1. Installations in China (by Military Region) with River Crossing Equipment
(keyed to Figure 1)

Item	Installation	River Crossing Unit/Equipment	Item	Installation	River Crossing Unit/Equipment
Shen-yang Military Region			Nan-ching Military Region		
1	Haerh-pin Hq Inf Div & Bks SE AL 3	Elements of company* & 3 KMM*	37	Shu-hsien Prob Def Strongpoint	Company*
2	Yen-chi Army Bks NNE AL 2	Elements of company	38	Pang-fou Inf Div Hq & Army Bks AL 1	2 companies
3	Chi-lin Ponton Br Regt A Bks AL 4	Regiment	39	Pang-pu Ponton Br Regt Hq A Bks AL 2	Regiment
4	Chang-chun Army Bks AL 6	Company	40	Hsu-i Army Bks	Regimental sized*
5	Chang-chun Army Bks SE	Company & 9 KMM*	41	Ho-fei Army Bks AL 3	Company* & 9 KMM*
6	Sau-ping Hq Arm'd Div Bks A Trng NE AL 3	Elements of company	42	Nan-ching Inf Div Hq A Army Bks AL 14	Company*
7	I-hsien Army Bks & Hqs AL 1	Elements of company	43	Chen-chiang Army Bks AL 4	Company* & 9 KMM*
8	Shih-shan Army Bks & Hqs AL 1	Company	44	Wu-hsi Army Bks WSW AL 3	Company*
9	Tan-tung Ponton Br Regt A Bks NE AL 4	Regiment	45	I-hsing Inf Div Hq & Army Bks AL 1	Company & 9 KMM
Peking Military Region			46	Mu-tu Army Bks NW AL 1	Elements of company*
10	Hu-ho-hao-te Army Bks AL 4	Elements of company	47	Hsuan-cheng Stor Depot	35 powerboats
11	Chi-ning Army Bks 5	Company	48	Wu-hsing Army Bks AL 2	Elements of company
12	Ta-tung Army Bks W AL 4	Company	49	Ling-chia-chiao Army Bks W AL 1	Company*
13	Chu-lo-pao Hq Inf Div A Bks AL 4	Company*	50	Pi-hu Army Bks AL 1	2 companies*
14	Huai-an Army Bks AL 2	Company	Fu-chou Military Region		
15	Chang-chia-kou Hq Army A Bks AL 1	Company	51	Shang-jao Army Bks AL 3	Company*
16	Hsuan-hua Explosives Stor Area	Company	52	Han-chiang Army Bks N AL 1	Company
17	Hsuan-hua Army Bks NW	Company	53	Pu-tien Inf Div Hq & Army Bks AL 3	Elements of company*
18	Chang-hsin-tien Army Bks AL 2	Tank-launched assault bridge*	Canton Military Region		
19	Yang-liu-ching Army Bks AL 4	Company	54	Chang-sha Army Bks NNE	Elements of company*
20	Wu-ching Hq Inf Div & Army Bks AL 1	Company*	55	Chang-sha Army Bks NE	2 companies*
21	Tien-ching Hq Inf Div A Army Bks AL 1	Elements of regiment*	56	Chao-an Army Hq & Army Bks AL 1	Company*
22	Yang-liu-ching Army Bks NE AL 1	Regiment	57	Chang-ning-hsin-hsu Inf Div Hq A Bks AL 6	Elements of company
23	Tuan-tsun Army Bks AL 1	Company	Kun-ming Military Region		
24	Yuan-ping Hq Inf Div A Army Bks AL 3	Company	58	Kun-ming Stor Fac	9 KMM*
25	Huo-lu Army Bks AL 4	Company*	59	Yu-chi Bks Area	Company
26	Shih-chia-chuang Army Bks	9 KMM*	Lan-chou Military Region		
27	Yutzu Hq Inf Div A Bks AL 2	Company	60	Hsien-chuan-tzu Bks Area NW	Company*
28	Hung-tung Hq Inf Div A Bks AL 1	2 companies	61	Hua-chai-tzu Army Bks AL 1	Company*
29	Lin-fen Hq Army A Bks AL 10	Elements of company	62	Shih-tsui-shan Mil Area	Company*
30	Chu-wu-hsien Hq Inf Div A Bks NE AL 1	Company	63	Shui-chuan Bks A Yeh Stor Area	Elements of regiment
31	Yun-cheng Army Bks W AL 2	Company	64	Pao-chi Army Bks AL 5	Company*
Wu-han Military Region			65	Huang-pu Mil Area	Company*
32	Lung-men Army Bks	2 companies & 9 KMM	66	Pu-cheng Mil Area	Elements of company*
33	Kai-feng Army Bks SW AL 1	9 KMM	67	Lin-tung Army Bks AL 3	Company*
Chi-nan Military Region					
34	Ping-yin Ponton Br Regt A Bks AL 1	Regiment			
35	Lin-i Hq Inf Div A Army Bks AL 1	18 KMM*			
36	Hsu-chou Army Bks	Company* & 9 KMM*			

*First Sighting.

List of Conversion Factors by Classification

UNITS OF LENGTH

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
MILLIMETERS	0.0394	INCHES
CENTIMETERS	0.3937	INCHES
INCHES	25.4000	MILLIMETERS
INCHES	2.5400	CENTIMETERS
FEET	0.3048	METERS
FEET	0.0003	KILOMETERS
YARDS	0.9144	METERS
METERS	3.2808	FEET
METERS	0.0005	MILES(NAUTICAL)
METERS	1.0936	YARDS
KILOMETERS	3280.8400	FEET
KILOMETERS	0.6214	MILES(STATUTE)
KILOMETERS	0.5400	MILES(NAUTICAL)
MILES(STATUTE)	1.6093	KILOMETERS
MILES(NAUTICAL)	6076.1154	FEET
MILES(NAUTICAL)	1.8520	KILOMETERS
MILES(NAUTICAL)	1852.0000	METERS

UNITS OF MASS

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
KILOGRAMS	2.2046	POUNDS(AVOIR.)
POUNDS(AVOIR.)	0.4536	KILOGRAMS
SHORT TONS	0.9072	METRIC TONS
METRIC TONS	1.1023	SHORT TONS
METRIC TONS	0.9842	LONG TONS
LONG TONS	1.0160	METRIC TONS

UNITS OF VOLUME

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
LITERS	0.2642	GALLONS
LITERS	0.0063	BARRELS(POL)
LITERS	0.0010	CUBIC METERS
GALLONS	3.7854	LITERS
GALLONS	0.1337	CUBIC FEET
GALLONS	0.0238	BARRELS(POL)
GALLONS	0.0038	CUBIC METERS
BUSHELS	0.0352	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC FEET	7.4805	GALLONS
CUBIC FEET	0.1781	BARRELS(POL)
CUBIC FEET	0.0283	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC YARDS	0.7646	CUBIC METERS
BARRELS(POL)	158.9873	LITERS
BARRELS(POL)	42.0000	GALLONS
BARRELS(POL)	5.6146	CUBIC FEET
BARRELS(POL)	0.1590	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC METERS	1000.0000	LITERS
CUBIC METERS	264.1721	GALLONS
CUBIC METERS	35.3147	CUBIC FEET
CUBIC METERS	28.3776	BUSHELS
CUBIC METERS	6.2898	BARRELS(POL)
CUBIC METERS	1.3080	CUBIC YARDS

UNITS OF AREA

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
SQUARE CENTIMETERS	0.1550	SQUARE INCHES
SQUARE INCHES	6.4516	SQUARE CENTIMETERS
SQUARE FEET	0.0929	SQUARE METERS
SQUARE YARDS	0.8361	SQUARE METERS
SQUARE METERS	10.7639	SQUARE FEET
SQUARE METERS	1.1960	SQUARE YARDS
SQUARE METERS	1.0000	CENTARES
SQUARE METERS	0.0002	ACRES
SQUARE METERS	0.0001	HECTARES
ACRES	4046.8564	SQUARE METERS
ACRES	0.4047	HECTARES
HECTARES	10000.0000	SQUARE METERS
HECTARES	2.4711	ACRES

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